

Schaumburg, Ill. - Congresswoman Melissa Bean (IL-08) released the following statement today in response to the Surface Transportation Board's ruling on Canadian National's proposed purchase of the EJ&E rail line:

"The Bush-appointed STB gives the people of Illinois another reason to be cynical about the government's ability to act in the interests of the people. The timing of this ruling is as suspect and disappointing as its contents. It inflicts severe traffic congestion, safety concerns, and quality of life impacts on our communities with disregard to those who will suffer them and negligible cost or accountability to CN. This ruling, and the STB's process is unjust and un-American and if it holds up, many U.S. taxpayers will subsidize the profits of a foreign company.

"I will continue to work with my colleagues in the House to address the failures of the current STB process to adequately protect communities. Community leaders indicate they will consider all options for appealing this ruling."